

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOHNNIE HODGES, SR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II Navy Veteran, and a friend of Buffalo, the late Johnnie Hodges, Sr. Hodges who served as a light of inspiration to his local community, and I am proud to bring recognition to his life and legacy today.

Mr. Hodges was a trailblazer. He began his service with the United States Navy on January 8, 1944 and following training in Bainbridge, Maryland, was stationed aboard the USS *General Harry Taylor*. Hodges served as a Stewards Mate Third Class on the troop transport ship during World War II, taking part in missions across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans until his honorable discharge on June 17, 1946. His participation, along with many other African Americans in the Armed Forces, led to the desegregation of the military and planted the seeds for Civil Rights Movement in the United States. He was also the first ever African American Foreman at Bethlehem Steel, a mill which was once the second largest producer of iron in the United States. In addition to his work at Bethlel Steel for 35 years, his wife, Flora, and he were entrepreneurs, owning a successful delicatessen.

Johnnie was known for his kindness which never went unrecognized by those around him. When he came back from serving our great country during World War II, he raised 6 children with his wife Flora. Johnnie was known to always be helping others, from teaching teenagers how to fix their cars, to helping a young neighbor with his newspaper route. Johnnie also served his local community by working as a bus driver for Buffalo for 25 years. When he had fallen behind in mortgage payments as he was caring for his sick wife and was eventually evicted from his home, the local community rallied in support of Johnnie, and raised over 100,000 dollars in less than 24 hours to send Johnnie back to his home. This generosity by family, friends, and strangers, is a true testament to the kind of man Johnnie was, and his lifetime of kindness was quickly repaid when he was in a time of need. These actions also demonstrated why Buffalo is known as the "City of Good Neighbors."

Madam Speaker, please join me to bring recognition to such a significant member of the Buffalo community. It is an honor to be able to recognize Johnnie Hodges, Sr. today. He helped to make our world a better place with his participation in World War II which strengthened our democracy and freedom, and our community a better place by being a true pillar of service and sacrifice. All those who were lucky enough to have known him will greatly miss his generous spirit and forever remember his lasting legacy of kindness.

IN HONOR OF KEN NORTON FOR HIS 19 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS NEW HAMPSHIRE IN CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere best wishes to Ken Norton as he steps down as Executive Director at the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) New Hampshire after many years of dedicated service in the field of mental health.

During Ken's long and successful career in community mental health advocacy, he will be remembered as a leading and influential voice for mental health awareness and access in New Hampshire. Ken has brought science-based grassroots mental health services to every community in our Granite State. We are grateful for Ken's leadership as he grew the NAMI New Hampshire organization, while strengthening partnerships, building the organization's capacity for support, education, and advocacy services. Our families, neighbors, and communities are better because of the work of Ken Norton.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Ken Norton for his exemplary service. I wish him the best of luck in the years ahead.

HONORING RICHARD "RICH" FREEDMAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard "Rich" Freedman in celebration of his longstanding career in journalism.

Upon graduating from Ygnacio Valley High School in Concord, California, and later from San Jose State University with a bachelor's in journalism, Mr. Freedman began a 27-year long career with the Vallejo Times-Herald. Largely inspired by his late professor, Roger Budrow, and his late father, Bernie, Mr. Freedman had an immense passion for every meaningful story.

While he ended his long and illustrious career with the Times-Herald as the Community Editor, he spent time covering the arts, sports, features, and wrote his own column. As the entertainment writer, he interviewed astronauts, authors, a CIA operative, singers, motivational speakers, and so many more.

In addition to Mr. Freedman's career with the Times-Herald, he spent much of his time serving his community. As a member of Reach Out Benicia, Contra Costa County

Child Abuse Prevention Council, and the Benicia/Vallejo Humane Society, Mr. Freedman received an Honorable Mention from the Contra Costa Press Club and Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Vallejo Boys and Girls Club. He was also recognized by the California Army National Guard and received a California Commendation Medal.

Mr. Freedman and his wife, Megan, have three children, Toby, Charlotte, and Beau, and one son, Cameron, who passed away in 2020. Mr. Freedman, throughout his career, has been known for his sense of humor, his passion, and willingness to serve his community.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Mr. Freedman has dedicated his life and career to the betterment of Vallejo, Benicia, and journalism. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING JOHN P. ANDERSON, DMD OF RAINSVILLE, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 20, 2022

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Dr. John P. Anderson of Rainsville, Alabama on his service to Northeast Alabama after 48 years of practice. Dr. Anderson's decades of service to his community and the State of Alabama exemplify the hard-working spirit of the people we have in Alabama's Fourth District.

Dr. Anderson graduated from Auburn University in 1969 where he was a member of the Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Epsilon Delta, and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies. He continued his education at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry where he graduated in 1973 with his DMD degree. While at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry he was a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society and the American College of Dentists. He received the Dean's Award, the highest award bestowed on a graduating senior, the Walter Pelton Community Dentistry Award, and the Academy of General Dentistry Award.

After receiving his DMD in 1973, Dr. Anderson practiced in Rainsville, Alabama. Deepening his dedication to his field, he served as a Delegate to the American Dental Association for 12 years, where he served as both Vice President and President. He also served as the President of the Dentistry Alumni Association for the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He has been honored with many outstanding awards over the course of his career including the Pierre Fauchard Academy Fellowship Award in 1988, the Academy of Dentistry International Fellowship Award in 1990, the Alabama Dental Association Dentist Citizen of the Year in 1991, the International College of Dentists Fellowship Award in 1992, the American College of Dentists Fellowship Award in 1993, and the Alabama Dental Association Most Excellent Fellow in 1995.

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